

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 /054 W

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O P 300953Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0402

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 12637

MONROVIA FOR SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), IV, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S TRIP: HOUPHOUET BOIGNY SEEKS  
MEETING

SUMMARY: PIERRE-BROSSOLETTE HAS TELEPHONED TO RELAY  
FERVENT HOUPHOUET BOIGNY EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN  
ARRANGING MEETING WITH SECRETARY DURING LATTER'S VISIT  
TO PARIS FRIDAY, MAY 7. HOUPHOUET IS NOW IN GENEVA.  
END SUMMARY.

1. CLAUDE PIERRE-BROSSOLETTE, SECRETARY GENERAL TO  
PRESIDENT GISCARD, TELEPHONED DCM THIS MORNING TO PASS  
ON PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET BOIGNY'S STRONG INTEREST IN  
ARRANGING MEETING WITH SECRETARY IN PARIS MAY 7.  
ACCORDING TO PIERRE-BROSSOLETTE, HOUPHOUET FEARS  
SECRETARY MAY HAVE TAKEN AMISS HOUPHOUET'S NON-  
AVAILABILITY FOR A MEETING IN ABIDJAN EARLIER SUGGESTED  
BY USG. HOUPHOUET BELIEVES THERE IS PENDING CHANGE  
OF US AMBASSADORS IN ABIDJAN WHICH MAY BE PARTLY  
ATTRIBUTED TO HIS OWN RELUCTANCE TO CHANGE HIS TRAVEL  
PLANS TO ACCOMMODATE SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE. HE WOULD  
LIKE QTE TO DISSIPATE THE MISUNDERSTANDING UNQTE BY  
PARIS MEETING.

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2. PIERRE-BROSSOLETTE SAID HE WOULD BE GLAD TO RELAY

OUR REPLY TO HOUPHOUET.

3. COMMENT: HOUPHOUET IS COMING TO PARIS FROM GENEVA FOR STATE VISIT MONDAY REMAINING IN PARIS ALL WEEK AND HAS EVIDENTLY CHOSEN TO CONVEY HIS INTEREST IN MEETING WITH SECRETARY THROUGH HIS GOOD FRIEND PRESIDENT GISCARD EITHER FOR COMMUNICATIONS CONVENIENCE OR IN HOPES OF A MORE FAVORABLE HEARING IF HE IS IN THE DOGHOUSE WITH US.  
RUSH

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NNN

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